

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 ISO-00 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /056 W

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P 181048Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7283

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CNO WASHDC

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

S E C R E T CAIRO 10442

E.O. 11652: 31 DEC 83

TAGS: MASS EG

SUBJECT: COMPLETION OF NIMBUS STREAM

REF CAIRO 10159

1. AS INDICATED IN REFTTEL, CAPTAIN STRATMANN, COMMANDER TASK FORCE SIXTY-FIVE, ACCOMPANIED BY CAPTAIN BLOCK, NAVAL ATTACHE TO CAIRO, CALLED UPON VICE ADMIRAL FOUAD ZIKRY, COMMANDER IN CHIEF EGYPTIAN NAVY ON 12 OCTOBER 1975 TO PRESENT A STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF THE NIMBUS STREAM OPERATION WHICH WAS CONCLUDED ON 10 OCTOBER. THE STATISTICAL SUMMARY, SIGNED BY CAPT STRATMANN, DESCRIBED THE SPECIFIC MINE-SWEEPING COVERAGE ATTAINED IN EACH OF THE FIVE EGYPTIAN MINE-FIELDS SWEEPED DURING NIMBUS STREAM. THE SUMMARY NOTED THAT EACH OF THE FIVE MINEFIELDS WAS SWEEPED IN ITS ENTIRETY TO 99 (NINETY-NINE) PERCENT PROBABILITY OF MINE ACTUATION (THAT IS TO SAY 99 PERCENT ASSURANCE THAT ANY LIVE MINES PRESENT WOULD HAVE BEEN ACTUATED). IN ADDITION, APPROXIMATELY 150 SQUARE MILES OF AREA OUTSIDE THE ESTABLISHED MINEFIELDS WERE SWEEPED TO ENSURE THAT NO LIVE MINES HAD ACCIDENTLY BEEN PLANTED OUTSIDE THE DEFINED MINEFIELD BOUNDARIES.

2. AS DEPT IS AWARE, THERE WERE NO RPT NO DETONATIONS OF MINES

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DURING OPERATION NIMBUS STREAM WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TWO TEST

MINES WHICH WERE SET AND PLANTED BY THE EGYPTIAN NAVY AND SUCCESSFULLY DETONATED BY TASK FORCE 65 MINESWEEPING HELICOPTERS AS A TEST AND DEMONSTRATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MINESWEEPING SYSTEMS IN USE. WE HAVE, FRANKLY, BEEN UNEASY BECAUSE OF THE LACK OF DETONATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE SINKING OF THE AMERICAN RESEARCH VESSEL NECHES IN ONE OF THE MINEFIELDS LAST JULY. WE ACCEPT, HOWEVER, THE ASSURANCES OF COGNIZANT OPERATIONAL COMMANDERS THAT ANY LIVE MINES WOULD HAVE BEEN DETONATED IN THE COURSE OF THE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED AND THAT BATTERY EXHAUSTION ACCOUNTS FOR THE LACK OF DETONATIONS.

3. VADM ZIKRY APPEARED PLEASED AT THE OVERALL RESULTS ACHIEVED AND EXPRESSED HIS DEEP APPRECIATION FOR THE ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE US NAVY. HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED THAT 99 PERCENT PROBABILITY OF MINE ACTUATION HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN EACH OF THE FIELDS AS OPPOSED TO ONLY 95 PERCENT WHICH HAD BEEN PROMISED. HE INQUIRED AS TO THE REASON FOR THE ADDITIONAL COVERAGE AND WAS TOLD THAT THIS EXTRA COVERAGE WAS DUE IN PART TO ADDITIONAL EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN AS A RESULT OF THE LACK OF DETONATIONS. HE DID INDICATE SOME RESERVATIONS DERIVING FROM THE NECHES INCIDENT BUT APPEARED SATISFIED THAT A THOROUGH JOB HAD BEEN DONE. IT WAS EXPLAINED TO ADM ZIKRY THAT THERE REMAINS A REMOTE POSSIBILITY OF A SPURIOUS DETONATION DUE TO RESIDUAL ELECTRICAL ENERGY IN DEPLETED MINE BATTERIES AND HE INDICATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THIS AND UNDERSTOOD ALSO THAT MINES COULD BE DETONATED BY SUCH OCCURANCES AS DREDGING OR BEING STRUCK BY A SHIP'S ANCHOR. AT NO TIME WAS ANY GUARANTEE MADE THAT THE SWEEPED AREA IS SAFE FOR NAVIGATION NOR WAS ANY REQUEST MADE FOR ANY SUCH GUARANTEE. ADM ZIKRY INDICATED THAT HE THOROUGHLY UNDERSTOOD THAT NO MINESWEEPING EFFORT CAN EVER BE 100 PERCENT EFFECTIVE. HE MADE NO FIRM COMMITMENT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT GOE WILL REMOVE NAVIGATIONAL RESTRICTIONS CURRENTLY IN EFFECT FOR THE AREA SURROUNDING THE MINEFIELDS.

4. EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT THE STATISTICAL SUMMARY, SIGNED BY CAPT STRATMANN, AND THE ACCOMPANYING VERBAL STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING DESCRIBED ABOVE CONSTITUTE AN ADEQUATE FINAL STATEMENT TO GOE RE NIMBUS STREAM AND UNLESS  
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QUESTIONS ARE RAISED, PLANS NO FURTHER COMMUNICATION ON THE SUBJECT TO GOE.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, NIMBUS STREAM, MINES (EXPLOSIVES), DREDGING, CANALS  
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**Draft Date:** 18 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Reference:** 75 CAIRO 10159  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <30 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMPLETION OF NIMBUS STREAM  
**TAGS:** MASS, EG, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006